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Natural Outlook MONTHLY UPDATE

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Natural Outlook Monthly Update is the TNRCC's monthly publication of environmental issues in Texas with a focus on air quality, water quality, drought, and sunset review. Below is the Web version of the July 2000 issue for your viewing.

If you would like a free subscription of the hard copy edition, please e-mail us at ac@tnrcc.state.tx.us

July 2000 Issue



[Sunset Staff Report Proposes Changes at TNRCC](#)

The staff of the Sunset Commission has recommended that the TNRCC be authorized to implement the state's environmental laws for the next 12 years. Staff recommendations include revisions to the agency's regulatory and financing structures.



[Cleaner Cars, Trucks on the Way](#)

The TNRCC has approved low-emissions standards for new cars, trucks, and sport utility vehicles sold in Texas, starting in 2003. Commissioners opted for the federal Tier II emissions standards over California's program. They said successful negotiations with U.S. automakers over evaporative standards will pave the way for Texas having emissions standards even tougher than Tier II.



More Water Curtailments Possible This Summer

Responding to drought conditions in some parts of the state, the TNRCC has moved to curb water use by some water rights holders. Restrictions on the pumping or channeling of water from some lakes and rivers followed unusually low-flow conditions in areas such as Kerrville.

Drought Assistance

The TNRCC's new Critical Facilities Team is prepared to respond quickly to public water utilities experiencing drought-related problems. The team delivers technical assistance and responds to complaints about water rights and drinking water issues.

The above information is also published as TNRCC print publication PD-020/00-07.

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